



## **NEW REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #2 SUMMARY REPORT February 16, 2016**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This report summarizes the results of the second of three (3) workshop series to be conducted as a part of the public outreach effort to assist in the preparation of the New Regional Park Concept Master Plan. The second workshop series was repeated on three separate dates: Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 6:00pm to 8:15pm at the Barn at Power Ranch (Workshop 2.A); Wednesday February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm at the Southeast Regional Library (Workshop 2.B); and Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at the Southeast Regional Library (Workshop 2.C). The Consultant Team worked with Gilbert staff to develop and coordinate the workshop.



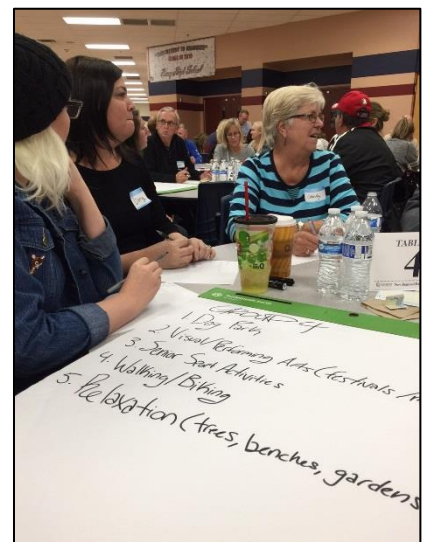
A total of 156 residents attended all three workshops; 70 residents attended the workshop on Tuesday night, 49 attended Wednesday afternoon, and 37 attended Wednesday evening. John Courtney, Principal of RJM Design Group, began the workshop by welcoming and thanking the attendees for their participation in the process. He then reviewed the overall process and schedule for the Park Master Plan project. Sean Wozny of Kimley-Horn Associates presented a summary of the analysis of the opportunities and features of the proposed park site. John Courtney then presented the workshop objectives and proceeded to facilitate the process.

### **WORKSHOP GOALS**

The results of Workshop #2 are discussed below and do not include the results from other outreach efforts such as individual interviews, recent input from Gilbert's Website and mail-in comments.

The goals of the workshop were presented as follows:

1. Provide a summary overview of the process and existing site characteristics;
2. Review a summary of the inputs that have been analyzed to date;
3. Refine the Vision during the workshop; and
4. Gather input from the workshop attendees.



## REFINING THE VISION: WORKSHOP #2 PROCESS

A summary of the previous inputs that have been analyzed so far in the process was presented. These included the Parks and Recreation Master Plan (completed in early 2014), the Resident Telephone Survey (June 2014), the Sports Fields Needs Assessment (2015), the Website Comments from Town Website (December 2015 and January 2016), Focus Groups (January 2016), and Workshop #1 (January 2016). These inputs were summarized in a matrix that demonstrated the priorities from all the inputs gathered and analyzed to date.

Four Park Conceptual Plan Options were then presented that showed the synthesis of the program priorities and all 29 of the workshop charrette plans that were created during Workshop #1. They are shown below:





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## PLAN OPTION 2

### High and Dry Area:

Lake, Amphitheater, Recreation/Cultural Centers, Aquatic Center, Picnic/Event Area, Basketball, Sand Volleyball, Parking, Restrooms and Concessions

### Upper Basin:

Sports Fields (50% of Sports Fields Needs Assessment met), Restrooms, Concessions, Large Picnic Ramadas, Hard Courts, BMX and Skate Parks, Multi-Use Trails, Large Playground

### Lower Basin:

Trail Head, Multi-Use Trails, Picnic Ramadas, Dog Park, Nature / Education Area, and Restrooms



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## PLAN OPTION 3

### High and Dry Area:

Lake, Amphitheater, Recreation / Cultural Centers, Aquatic Center, Picnic/Event Area, Basketball, Sand Volleyball, Parking, Restrooms and Concessions

### Upper Basin:

Major Sports Fields (100% SFNA Met), Restrooms, Concessions, Large Picnic Ramadas, Large Playground and Wet Play Splashpad, Multi-Use Trails

### Lower Basin:

Sports Fields, Multi-Use Trails, Picnic Ramadas, Dog Park, Hard Courts Nature / Education Area, and Restrooms



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## PLAN OPTION 4

### High and Dry Area:

Lake, Amphitheater, Recreation/Cultural Centers, Aquatic Center, Picnic/Event Area, Basketball, Sand Volleyball, Restrooms and Concessions

### Upper Basin:

Sports Fields (75% of SFNA Met), Restrooms, Concessions, Large Picnic Ramadas, Large Playground and Wet Play Splashpad, BMX and Skate Park, Multi-Use

### Trails

### Lower Basin:

Portion of Sport Field, Multi-Use  
Trails, Large Picnic Ramadas,  
Dog Park, Hard Courts  
Nature / Education  
Area, Trail Head  
and  
Restrooms



## REFINING THE VISION: WORKSHOP #2 INPUT ACTIVITIES

The workshop participants were seated at tables of no more than 8 residents for the individual and small group questions and discussions that followed the presentation. At workshop 2.A there were 12 groups; at Workshop 2.B there were 8 groups; and at workshop 1.C there were also 8 groups. During the course of the input activities of the workshop, two topics were presented for individual consideration and group discussion. The questions that were asked follow below:

- + **Question 1 - Individual:** Please provide your ranking of the four plans (most favorite is 1, least favorite is 4); and explain why. Please provide ideas to make the plans better. Please use the comment cards to provide your response.
- + **Question 1 – Small Group:** Please discuss you individual plan rankings and decide your table's ranking of the four options and ideas to make the plans better. .
- + **Question 2 – Individual:** Please provide suggestions to improve any of the plans to make them more sustainable and cost-effective.
- + **Question 2 – Small Group:** Please discuss your responses to Q2 and develop a list of ideas on the large pads of paper.

Initially, participants were asked to individually respond on comment cards that were distributed before the presentation of the questions. They were encouraged to list as many modifications that came to mind that would increase their use of the park.

A group discussion then began with individual members of each group sharing their responses with the entire group. Approximately 20 minutes was allotted for the groups to discuss their answers on each particular topic.

At the conclusion of the workshop, small groups were selected at random to present a summary of the Plan Option rankings and response lists from their groups.

## **WORKSHOP SUMMARY**

After the workshops were completed, the consultant team identified the top answers of all groups for each of the topics presented. They are listed below:

### **QUESTION 1**

Please provide your ranking of the four plans (most favorite is 1, least favorite is 4); and explain why. Please provide ideas to make the plans better. Please use the comment cards to provide your response.

Below is the number of groups' preference for the most favorite plan:

PLAN OPTION 2: 17 groups' top choice

WHY: Has the most nature & open space, fields/lighting together, most green, good variety of features, not too many sports fields, coherent separation of activity areas

PLAN OPTION 4: 9 groups' top choice

WHY: Meets 75% of Sports Fields Needs Assessment, best area utilization, lower maintenance costs, cost is midrange, included BMX and skatepark, meets growth needs, utilizes land, balances active and passive uses, better equestrian access

PLAN OPTION 3: 1 groups' top choice

WHY: Meets the full growth needs of the Town for sports fields on one site

PLAN OPTION 1: 0 groups' top choice

Modifications/Improvements (in order of priority):

Add disc golf

Add parking on west side for access to ballfields

Larger lake or another lake in lower area, nature area

More playgrounds near sports fields

Need a maintenance facility/yard

More splashpads

Larger dog park / sectioned

Benches  
 Walking bridge across lake  
 Eliminate aquatics  
 Need 8 racquetball courts  
 Archery  
 Game courts (shuffleboard, bocce, 4 square)  
 More volleyball & badminton  
 Indoor soccer

## **QUESTION 2**

Please provide suggestions to improve any of the plans to make them more sustainable and cost-effective. Top responses were as follows (in order of preference):

Solar panels to reduce power use & for lighting ballfields  
 Food truck/ vending area  
 Flexible multi-purpose space for wedding rentals, special events, car shows, swap meets  
 Farmer's Markets and Arts & Crafts Fairs area  
 Naming rights/sponsorships  
 Native Plants/xeriscape  
 Movie in the Park night  
 Volunteers  
 Eliminate aquatics  
 Eliminate BMX

The workshop concluded with reminders about the next public meeting dates for the project and the project website that is available for providing comments.

## **NEXT WORKSHOP DATE:**

**Workshop #3 (Presenting the Vision)** will be held at the following dates and locations:

- Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 at 6:00pm at the Southeast Regional Library Assembly Room, or
- Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 at 1:00pm at the Southeast Regional Library Assembly Room, or
- Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 at 6:00pm at the Perry High School Cafeteria.